

# College dedicates Casey room

**By Dennis Lynch**

Daily Staff Reporter

The new vigor of the United Nations is based largely on the Soviet Union's "withdrawal from the position of eternal confrontation," a turn of events that United States U.N. ambassador Vernon Walters on Saturday attributed primarily to the tenacity of William J. Casey, the late CIA director.

Lt. Gen. Walters outlined the changes in the United Nations and East-West diplomacy during a ceremony at Christendom College dedicating the William J. Casey Room at the college's library in memory of his late friend.

Previous generations viewed Soviet expansionism as inevitable, Walters said. Few people, Casey included, thought anything could be done to hasten significant changes in the Soviet system. But Soviet policy has changed, in part, Walters said, because of the "tireless efforts of Bill Casey and those, who on that silent battlefield, without glory or visible honor or reward, served in making the world a safer place."

"I did not expect in my lifetime to see the beginning of the breakup of the Marxist idea as a political, social and economic phenomenon," he said.

Walters declined to be more specific about Casey's contributions to East-West relations. "What he did there, few people know. Some of us do. And we realize how enormously grateful we are to him." Those efforts enabled the United States to withstand further Soviet steps toward expansion.

Casey "strengthened us in a way that made the Soviets realize they could not go on the way they were," Walters said, "that their system was economically non-productive and really outmoded. It was designed for Charles Dickens' time and not ours."

Describing the Soviet Union as "the most advanced developing nation" in the world, Walters said some Soviets already believe their system is dissolving. One Soviet diplomat at the United Nations recently defined communism as "the

slowest and most painful form of transition from feudalism to capitalism," Walters said.

He predicted that the Soviet Union will curb its expansionist foreign policy and will probably permit more freedom for the nations of eastern Europe, which it dominates. As the Soviets turn their attention inward, devoting more time and resources toward building the technology developed nations already possess, the world will be safer, according to Walters.

Walters, who was deputy director of the CIA when President-elect George Bush served as its director, said Bush got to know Soviet leaders well during his eight years as vice president.

Walters left the door open for his reappointment to the U.N. post in the Bush administration. "I've been there four years, that's a long time." But he conceded, "It's difficult to say no to the president."

College officials presented Casey's widow, Sophia, with a copy of a print of Casey that will hang in the library's new Casey room.

She donated \$50,000 in her husband's memory to help pay for the addition to the library.

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